Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.   (currently amended) A method for predicting digital subscriber line (DSL) performance on an existing telephone loop, comprising:

obtaining a topological description of the existing telephone loop;

identifying a test loop different from the existing telephone loop, the test loop being a straight loop of a particular length and a particular gauge that is and being equivalent to the existing telephone loop, as an equivalent loop, based on the topological description of the existing telephone loop;

determining DSL performance for the equivalent loop; and

predicting DSL performance for the existing telephone loop based on the DSL performance for the equivalent loop.

2.   (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the obtaining includes:

receiving at least one of a frequency, length, gauge, temperature, or insulation type associated with the existing telephone loop.

3.   (original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

determining an insertion loss for the existing telephone loop based on the topological description of the existing telephone loop.

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4.   (original) The method of claim 3, further comprising:

determining a DSL capacity of the existing telephone loop using the insertion loss for the

existing telephone loop.

5.   (original) The method of claim 4, wherein the determining a DSL capacity

includes:

creating a loss curve using the insertion loss, and

integrating the loss curve to determine the DSL capacity of the existing telephone

loop.

6.   (original) The method of claim 4, wherein the determining a DSL capacity

includes:

creating a loss curve based on the insertion loss over a plurality of frequencies,

and

determining an area below the loss curve over the plurality of frequencies, the area

corresponding to the DSL capacity of the existing telephone loop.

7.   (original) The method of claim 4, wherein the existing telephone loop includes an

upstream path and a downstream path; and

wherein the determining a DSL capacity includes:

separately determining the DSL capacity for each of the upstream and downstream

paths.

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8.   (original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

determining a DSL capacity of the existing telephone loop from the topological

description of the existing telephone loop.

9.   (original) The method of claim 8, wherein the existing telephone loop includes an

upstream path and a downstream path; and

wherein the determining a DSL capacity includes:

separately determining the DSL capacity for each of the upstream and downstream

paths.

10.   (original) The method of claim 9, wherein the identifying includes:

determining equivalent loops corresponding to each of the upstream and

downstream paths.

11.   (previously presented) The method of claim 8, wherein the identifying includes:

using the DSL capacity to identify the equivalent loop.

12.   (original) The method of claim 11, wherein the using includes:

locating the DSL capacity in a table, and

finding the equivalent loop that corresponds to the DSL capacity in the table.

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13.   (previously presented) The method of claim 11, wherein the using includes:

determining the particular length of the straight loop from information regarding

at least one of bridged-taps, gauge, temperature, or insulation type associated with the

existing telephone loop.

14.   (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the determining DSL performance for

the equivalent loop includes:

selecting DSL performance data from a plurality of previously-obtained DSL

performance data.

15.   (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the determining DSL performance for

the equivalent loop includes:

selecting DSL performance data from a plurality of DSL performance data for

loops of different lengths under different crosstalk conditions.

16.   (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the predicting includes:

determining spectral interference conditions associated with the existing telephone

loop, and

predicting the DSL performance of the existing telephone loop based on the DSL

performance for the equivalent loop and the determined spectral interference conditions.

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17.   (currently amended) A system for predicting digital subscriber line (DSL) performance on existing telephone loops, comprising:

means for obtaining a topological ~~descriptions~~ <u>description</u> of <u>each of</u> the existing telephone loops;

means for identifying <u>other</u> loops, ~~of one or more particular lengths and a single particular gauge that are~~ <u>each of the other loops being a test loop</u> equivalent <u>respectively</u> to <u>one of</u> the existing telephone loops, as <u>an</u> equivalent [[loops]] <u>loop</u>, based on the topological ~~descriptions~~ <u>description</u> of the <u>respective</u> existing telephone [[loops]] <u>loop</u>;

means for determining DSL performance for <u>each</u> [[the]] equivalent [[loops]] <u>loop</u> ; and

means for predicting DSL performance for <u>each of</u> the existing telephone loops from the DSL performance for [[the]] <u>each respective</u> equivalent [[loops]] <u>loop</u>.

18.   (currently amended) A system for estimating digital subscriber line (DSL) performance on customer telephone loops, comprising:

a memory configured to store instructions; and

a processor configured to execute the instructions to:

receive information regarding the customer telephone loops,

identify <u>test loops different from the customer telephone loops, the different loops being</u> straight loops of one or more particular lengths and a corresponding one or more particular gauges ~~that are~~ <u>and being</u> equivalent to the customer telephone loops, as equivalent loops, based on the received information,

determine DSL performance for the equivalent loops, and

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estimate DSL performance for the customer telephone loops from the DSL

performance for the equivalent loops.

19.   (previously presented) The system of claim 18, wherein when receiving

information regarding the customer telephone loops, the processor is configured to receive at

least one of a frequency, length, gauge, temperature, [[and]] or insulation type associated with

each of the customer telephone loops.

20.   (original) The system of claim 18, wherein the processor is further configured to

determine an insertion loss for each of the customer telephone loops based on the received

information for the customer telephone loops.

21.   (original) The system of claim 20, wherein the processor is further configured to

determine a DSL capacity of each of the customer telephone loops using the insertion loss for the

existing telephone loops.

22.   (original) The system of claim 21, wherein when determining a DSL capacity of

each of the customer telephone loops, the processor is configured to create a loss curve using the

insertion loss and integrate the loss curve to determine the DSL capacity of the customer

telephone loop.

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23.   (original) The system of claim 21, wherein when determining a DSL capacity of each of the customer telephone loops, the processor is configured to create a loss curve based on the insertion loss over a plurality of frequencies and determine an area below the loss curve over the plurality of frequencies, the area corresponding to the DSL capacity of the customer telephone loop.

24.   (original) The system of claim 21, wherein each of the customer telephone loops includes an upstream path and a downstream path; and

wherein when determining a DSL capacity of each of the customer telephone loops, the processor is configured to separately determine the DSL capacity for each of the upstream and downstream paths.

25.   (original) The system of claim 18, wherein the processor is further configured to determine a DSL capacity of each of the customer telephone loops from the received information for the customer telephone loops.

26.   (original) The system of claim 25, wherein each of the customer telephone loops includes an upstream path and a downstream path; and

wherein when determining a DSL capacity of each of the customer telephone loops, the processor is configured to separately determine the DSL capacity for each of the upstream and downstream paths.

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27.   (original) The system of claim 26, wherein the processor is configured to determine equivalent loops corresponding to each of the upstream and downstream paths.

28.   (previously presented) The system of claim 25, wherein the processor is configured to use the DSL capacity corresponding to each of the customer telephone loops to identify the equivalent loops.

29.   (original) The system of claim 28, wherein the processor is configured to locate the DSL capacity corresponding to each of the customer loops in a table and find the equivalent loops that correspond to the DSL capacities in the table.

30.   (previously presented) The system of claim 28, wherein the processor is configured to determine the one or more particular lengths of the straight loops from information regarding at least one of bridged-taps, gauge, temperature, or insulation type associated with each of the customer telephone loops.

31.   (original) The system of claim 18, wherein when determining DSL performance for each of the equivalent loops, the processor is configured to select DSL performance data from a plurality of previously-obtained DSL performance data.

32.   (original) The system of claim 18, wherein when determining DSL performance for each of the equivalent loops, the processor is configured to select DSL performance data from

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a plurality of DSL performance data for loops of different lengths under different crosstalk conditions.

33.   (original) The system of claim 18, wherein the processor is configured to determine spectral interference conditions associated with each of the customer telephone loops and predict the DSL performance of the customer telephone loops based on the DSL performance for the equivalent loops and the determined spectral interference conditions.

34.   (currently amended) A computer-readable medium that stores instructions executable by one or more processors to perform a method for estimating digital subscriber line (DSL) performance on a customer telephone loop, comprising:

instructions for determining operating conditions for the customer telephone loop;

instructions for identifying a different, test loop of a particular length and a particular gauge that corresponds to the customer telephone loop operating under the determined operating conditions;

instructions for determining DSL performance for the different, test loop of the particular length and the particular gauge; and

instructions for estimating DSL performance for the customer telephone loop from the DSL performance for the different, test loop of the particular length and the particular gauge.

35.   (previously presented) A method for estimating digital subscriber line (DSL) performance on a telephone line, comprising:

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identifying a straight cable of a particular length and a particular gauge that corresponds to the telephone line;

determining DSL performance on the straight cable; and

estimating DSL performance on the telephone line based on the determined DSL performance on the straight cable.

36.   (currently amended) A method for predicting asymmetric digital subscriber line (ADSL) performance on an existing telephone loop, comprising:

determining characteristics and operating conditions of the existing telephone loop;

calculating ADSL capacity of the existing telephone loop based on the determined characteristics;

identifying a different, test loop of a particular length and a particular gauge that is equivalent to the existing telephone loop based on the ADSL capacity and the determined operating conditions of the existing telephone loop;

determining ADSL performance on the equivalent different, test loop; and

predicting ADSL performance on the existing telephone loop from the determined ADSL performance on the equivalent different, test loop.